Attorney Docket No.: US 010324

REMARKS

I. INTRODUCTION

Claims 1, 3-5, 11-18, 20 and 21 have been amended. Claim 19 had been canceled. Claims 22-24 have been added. Thus, claims 1-18 and 20-24 remain pending in the present application. No new matter has been added. In view of the above amendments and following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable.

II. THE 35 U.S.C. § 112 REJECTIONS SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112. (See 03/22/06 Office Action, p. 2, lines 16-18). Applicant has amended claim 1 to provide sufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "audio command." Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection be withdrawn.

III. THE 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) REJECTIONS SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

Claims 1-18 and 20-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,999,214 to Inagaki ("Inagaki") in view of Pavlovic et al., "Integration of audio/video information for use in a human-computer intelligent interaction," Image processing, 1997 Proceedings IEEE, ("Pavlovic") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,154,723 to Cox et al. ("Cox"). (See Id., p. 3, lines 1-5).

Amended claim 1 recites, a "video display device comprising: a display configured to display a primary image and a picture-in-picture image (PIP) overlaying the primary image; and a processor operatively coupled to the display and configured to receive a

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first video data stream for the primary image, to receive a second video data stream for the PIP, to recognize an audio command related to a PIP display characteristic, *the processor, upon recognizing the audio command, activates an image acquisition component that is configured to recognize a user hand gesture related to manipulating the PIP display characteristic, the processor manipulates the PIP display characteristic according to the audio command and the hand gesture.*" (Emphasis added).

Inagaki generally relates to video conference system including a video camera for imaging participants in a conference, a plotting image input unit for receiving plotting data from a participant, and a synthesization unit for synthesizing an image including plotting image data being input and video data of the participant who is entering the plotting image data. (See Inagaki, Abstract). Specifically, Inagaki describes a system including a voice direction detection unit for detecting a speaking individual within a conference of people. (See Id., col. 11, lines 65-67). The voice direction detection unit allows for changing the imaging direction of a camera to point towards the speaking individual. (See Id., col. 12, lines 4-7).

Pavlovic generally relates to a human-computer intelligent interaction using auditory and visual features in a virtual environment. (See Pavlovic, p. 121, Abstract). Specifically, Pavlovic describes a system using multimodal integration wherein visual and audio feature vectors are combined to create a joint audio-visual feature. (See Id., p. 122, § 2.4). The system allows a user to manipulate virtual objects using a set of gestures and spoken commands. (See Id., p. 123, § 3).

Cox generally relates a three-dimensional virtual reality system for creation, manipulation and editing, wherein the system includes a voice and three dimensional gesture input interface. (See Cox, Abstract). Specifically, Cox describes a system including the use of

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voice commands to trigger input from a spatially-tracked hand-held wand to a virtual director in a virtual immersion environment. (See Id., col. 5, lines 10-19). The position and orientation of sensors within the hand-held wand are magnetically tracked by the system. (See Id., col. 4, lines 6-10). Thus, the tracking of the user gesture according to Cox requires the user to be within an immersion environment and furthermore, the tracking of the gesture requires the user to operate the magnetically tracked wand.

In contrast to Inagaki, Pavlovic and Cox, the present invention describes a system wherein an image acquisition component is activated upon the system's recognition of an audio command. (See Specification, p. 11, ll. 8-18). By activation of the image acquisition component after the audio command, the present invention is able to prevent false activation of the system due to an inadvertent hand gesture from the user. In addition, the present invention allows for conservation of system resources since the image acquisition component is activated upon recognizing the audio command. Thus, the system will not unnecessarily expend resources to monitor the user until the user activates the system using the audio command. Finally, the present invention relates to the acquisition of a user hand gesture as opposed to requiring the use of magnetically tracked wand as described in Cox.

It is respectfully submitted that disclosures of Inagaki, Pavlovic and Cox fail to teach or suggest, either alone or in combination, each of the claim limitations recited in claims 1-18, and 21-24. Specifically, neither Inagaki, Pavlovic nor Cox teach or suggest a "video display device comprising: a display configured to display a primary image and a picture-in-picture image (PIP) overlaying the primary image; and a processor operatively coupled to the display and configured to receive a first video data stream for the primary image, to receive a second video data stream for the PIP, to recognize an audio command related to a PIP display

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characteristic, *the processor, upon recognizing the audio command, activates an image acquisition component* that is configured to recognize a user hand gesture related to manipulating the PIP display characteristic, the processor manipulates the PIP display characteristic according to the audio command and the hand gesture," as recited in claim 1.

Applicant respectfully submits that for at least the reasons stated above, claim 1 of the present application is not obvious over Inagaki in view of Pavlovic and in view of Cox, and request that the rejection of this claim be withdrawn. As claims 1-10 and 22 depend from, and therefore include all the limitations of claim 1, it is hereby submitted that these claims are also allowable.

The Examiner rejected claim 11 using similar arguments to the rejection of claim 1 over Inagaki in view of Pavlovic and in view of Cox. (See 03/22/06 Office Action, p. 8, lines 3-11). Claim 11 recites a "...activating an image acquisition component upon determining the received audio command as recognized; receiving a hand gesture from a user..." Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 11 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 1. As claim 12-14 and 23 depends from, and therefore includes all the limitations of claim 11, it is hereby submitted that these claims are is also allowable.

The Examiner rejected claim 15 using similar arguments to the rejection of claim 1 over Inagaki in view of Pavlovic and in view of Cox. (See 03/22/06 Office Action, p. 9, lines 3-7). Claim 15 recites "...a program segment for activating an image acquisition component upon determining the received audio command as recognized..." Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 15 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 1. As claim 16-18 and 24 depends from, and therefore includes all the limitations of claim 15, it is hereby submitted that these claims are is also allowable.

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The Examiner rejected claim 20 using similar arguments to the rejection of claim 1 over Inagaki in view of Pavlovic and in view of Cox. (See 03/22/06 Office Action, p. 9, lines 8-13). Claim 15 recites "...wherein the processor is configured to recognize an audio commands is identified as an audio indication to change the PIP display characteristic, upon recognizing the audio command the processor activates an image acquisition component..." Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 20 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 1.

The Examiner rejected claim 21 using similar arguments to the rejection of claim 1 over Inagaki in view of Pavlovic and in view of Cox. (See 03/22/06 Office Action, p. 9, lines 14-16). Claim 21 recites "...a program segment for activating an image acquisition component upon determining the received audio command as recognized..." Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 21 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to claim 1.

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CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the now pending claims are in condition for allowance. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed. An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.
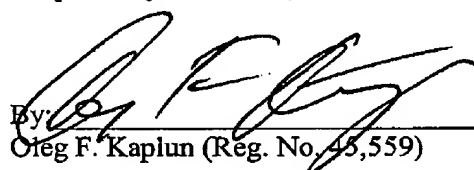
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